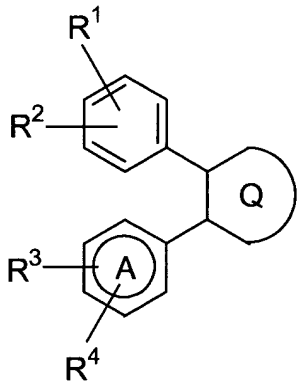
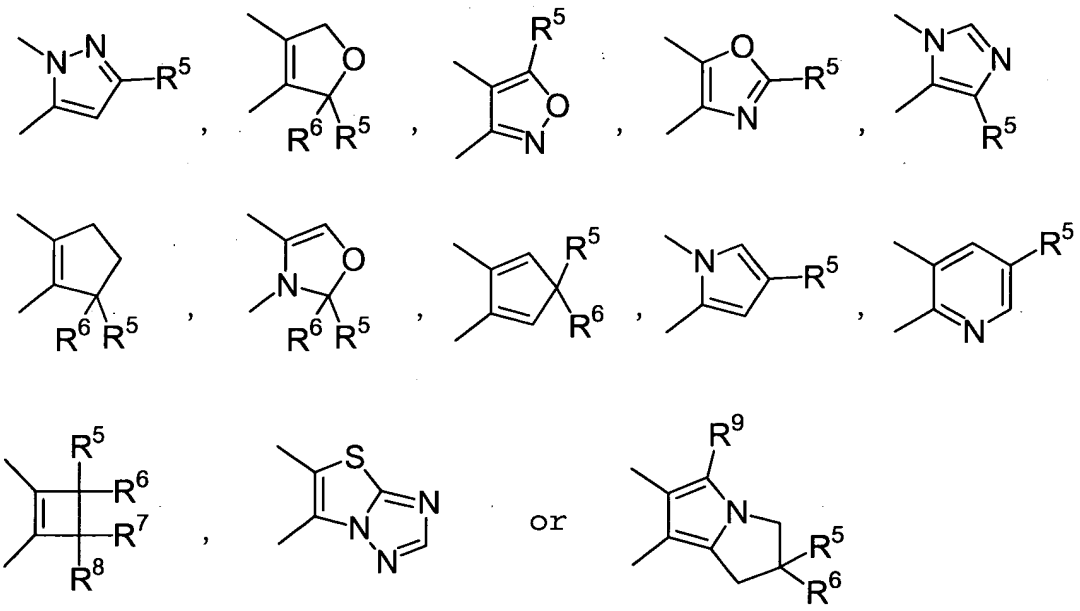
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of opening a large conductance calcium-activatetd K channel in a mammal in need thereof comprising administering to said mammal a ~~large conductance calcium-activated K channel opener comprising a~~ compound of the formula (I):

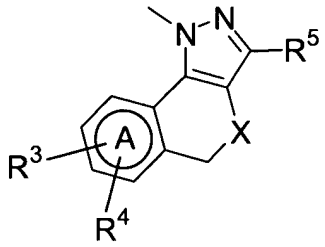


wherein R^1 is a halogen, aminosulfonyl, an alkylsulfonyl or an alkanoylaminosulfonyl; R^2 is hydrogen or a halogen; R^3 and R^4 may be the same or different from each other and each is hydrogen, a halogen, an alkyl or an alkoxy; Ring A is benzene, pyridine or a cycloalkane, and Ring Q is



where R^5 is a halogen, an alkyl or a haloalkyl; R^6 is hydrogen or an alkyl; or R^5 and R^6 may be combined to each other to form oxo; R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen or may be combined to each other to form oxo; and R^9 is a carboxyalkyl,

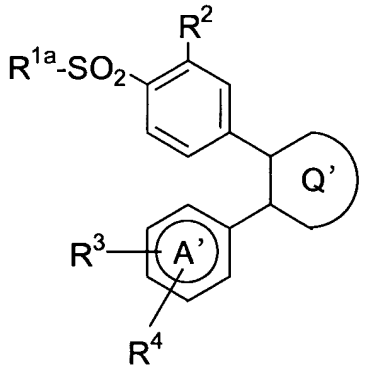
or Ring Q and Ring A may be combined to each other to form a fused ring of the formula:



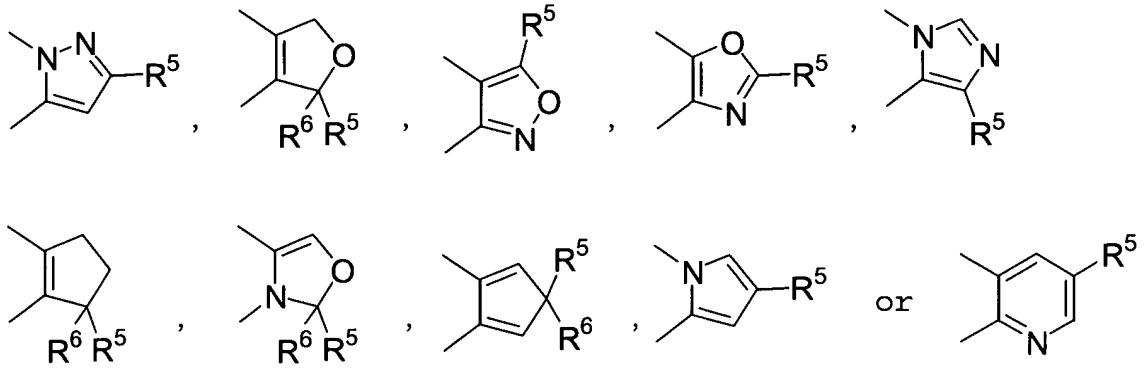
where X is sulfur atom or oxygen atom, and R^3, R^4 and R^5 have the same meanings as defined above,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The ~~large conductance calcium-activated K channel opener~~ method according to Claim 1, wherein the opener contains a compound of the formula (II):



wherein R^{1a} is amino, an alkyl or an alkanoylamino; R^2 is hydrogen or a halogen; R^3 and R^4 may be the same or different from each other and each is hydrogen, a halogen, an alkyl or an alkoxy; Ring A' is benzene or a cycloalkane, and Ring Q' is



where R^5 is a halogen, an alkyl or a haloalkyl; R^6 is hydrogen or an alkyl; or R^5 and R^6 may be combined to each other to form oxo,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The ~~large-conductance calcium-activated K channel opener~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the opener contains a compound selected from the group consisting of

(1) celecoxib,

(2) rofecoxib,

(3) valdecoxib,

(4) parecoxib,

(5) tilmacoxib,

(6) 4-(4-chloro-5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)imidazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide,

(7) 2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-((4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one,

(8) 1-fluoro-4-(2-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-1-cyclopenten-1-yl)benzene,

(9) 4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide,

(10) 4-(2-methyl-4-phenyloxazol-5-yl)benzenesulfonamide,

(11) 4-(2-oxo-3-phenyl-2,3-dihydroxazol-4-yl)benzenesulfonamide,

(12) 1-(3,3-dimethyl-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)cyclopenta-1,4-diene-1-yl)-4-fluorobenzene,

(13) 4-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylpyrrol-yl)benzene-sulfonamide, and

(14) etoricoxib,

(15) 4,4-dimethyl-2-phenyl-3-(methylsulfonylphenyl)cyclobutanone,

(16) 5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-6-phenyl[1,3]thiazolo[3,2-b][1,2,4]triazole,

(17) 4-(6-fluoro-7-methoxy-3-trifluoromethylisothiochromeno[4,3-c]pyrazol-1(5H)-yl)benzenesulfonamide, and

(18) licofelone

(19) 4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(20) N-acetyl-4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(21) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-chloromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzenesulfonamide,

(22) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzenesulfonamide,

(23) 4-[5-(2-methylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(24) 4-[5-(3-methylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(25) 4-[5-(2-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(26) 4-[5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(27) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-n-propyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(28) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-ethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(29) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-isopropyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(30) 4-[5-phenyl-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(31) 4-[5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(32) 4-[5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(33) 4-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(34) 4-[5-(3-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(35) 4-[5-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(36) 4-[5-(2-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(37) 4-[5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(38) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,

(39) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,

(40) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,

(41) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(2-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,

(42) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,

(43) 4-[5-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(44) 4-[5-(3-pyridyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzenesulfonamide,

(45) 4-[5-methyl-3-(4-bromophenyl)isoxazol-4-yl]benzene-sulfonamide, and

(46) 5-methyl-3-phenyl-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)isoxazole,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The ~~large conductance calcium activated K channel opener~~ method according to claim 1, wherein

the opener contains a compound selected from the group consisting of

(1) celecoxib,

(2) rofecoxib,

(3) valdecoxib,

(10) 4-(2-methyl-4-phenyloxazol-5-yl)benzenesulfonamide,

(21) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-chloromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzenesulfonamide,

(22) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzenesulfonamide,

(23) 4-[5-(2-methylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(36) 4-[5-(2-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(37) 4-[5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(43) 4-[5-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

(44) 4-[5-(3-pyridyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzenesulfonamide,

(45) 4-[5-methyl-3-(4-bromophenyl)isoxazol-4-yl]benzene-sulfonamide,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) ~~A large conductance calcium activated K cannel opener~~ The method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the ~~opener is an agent for the prophylaxis or treatment of~~ mammal has pollakiuria or urinary incontinence.